taken up after its entrustment to the State Government depending upon *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

(c) It is too early to indicate date of start of actual work.

Declaration of new National Highways in Gujarat

603. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has made any proposals for declaring any new National Highways in the State;

(b) whether despite declaration of certain roads in Gujarat as National Highways additional grant commensurate with the increase in length has not been allotted to the State;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether having longest coast line in the country and being in proximity to all the States, traffic plying through the State is expected to increase tremendously;

(e) if so, whether Government intend to extend some additional roads leading to these ports as National Highways; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) Yes, Sir. A number of proposals have been received from the State Government of Gujarat for the declaration of new National Highways.

(b) and (c) The allocation of funds for the development of National Highways in different States including Gujarat is made on the basis of bank of sanction, progress of works, budget provisions etc. for a particular State and not merely on the basis of length of National Highways. However, funds for maintenance and repairs of National Highways are generally based on length of National Highways in the State.

(d) As per past trends, the traffic has been increasing on various National Highways. The same trend can also be expected on National Highways in Gujarat.

(e) and (f) There is no such proposal at this stage.